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THE CULTURE AND CONFLICT REVIEW



Analysis: Examining the Hezb-i-Islami (Gulbudin Hekmatyar) website *Daily Shahadt*

Ahmad Waheed, 8/30/2010

Introduction

In 1976, a young Islamist named Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, a Kharoti Pashtun from the northern Afghan province of Kunduz, formed the fundamentalist Hezb-i-Islami political faction in Pakistan in response to the growing influence of leftist movements in the Afghan government and university campuses. During the 1980s, Hekmatyar, along with guidance from Pakistan's ISI and financial assistance from American and Saudi intelligence services, propelled Hezb-i-Islami into the biggest mujahedeen organization fighting against the Soviet occupation. Hekmatyar is most infamous for his brutal battlefield tactics and backstabbing political deals, including the assassination of many of his political rivals.[1]

His reign of terror also included the shelling of Kabul during the 1992-1994 civil war, one of the only known instances when an acting prime minister bombarded his own capital. During the rise of the Taliban, Hekmatyar lost several of his key strongholds and weapons dumps, including the Spin Boldak armory in Kandahar in 1994 and Charasayab, a region south of Kabul, before being exiled to Iran following the Taliban's capture of Kabul in 1996. Many of Hekmatyar's loyalists sought refuge in Pakistan during Taliban period, although some commanders and militiamen folded into the Taliban government. Post-2001, Hekmatyar left his clandestine sanctuary in Mashhad, Iran, and has remained a fugitive ever since, floating between Pakistan and Afghanistan and orchestrating attacks against the Afghan government and international forces. Hekmatyar has reactivated some of his loyal cadres in northern and eastern Afghanistan, namely in the provinces of Takhar, Badakshan, Baghlan, Nangarhar, Kabul, Logar, Laghman, Kunar, Nuristan, Wardak and parts of Paktia, Paktika and Khost. The U.S. military has estimated Hekmatyar's forces to number around 400-600, although experts suggest the number is more likely to total around 1,500 full-time fighters.[2]

The following analysis examines how Hekmatyar has reinvigorated his once dormant Hezb-i-Islami cadres into a significant political movement and how this movement differs from the Taliban. By studying Hezb-i-Islami's website, *Daily Shahadat*, over a five day period, the strategies and message campaign deployed by HIK is noticeably different from those presented by the Taliban and their affiliates. Identifying and understanding these differences is important in deciphering various strata's of the Afghan insurgency and moves beyond lumping anti-government factions under the umbrella terms such as "the Taliban."

Unlike other media sources[3] related to insurgency, the Hezb-i-Islami Gulbudin Hekmatyar (HIG) newspaper website, *Daily Shahadat*, which means martyrdom, is designed to target audiences from all backgrounds and age groups. The website is divided into different sections which include adolescents, children, editorials, poetry and literature, articles, books, magazines, and useful links. *Shahadat* conveys various HIG social and political messages while publishing up-to-date news on domestic and international issues, particularly regarding topics related to the Muslim community around the world. This daily updated newspaper website mainly focuses on military operations in Afghanistan, events related to Palestinians, and conflicts in other Muslim countries. It is colored green, which portrays their party's flag color.

Adolescents Section

The adolescent's section of Daily Shahamat focuses on youths and demonstrates that HIG is deliberately and strategically trying to communicate with Afghanistan's youths. This literature stresses the significance of youths in their party. Furthermore, Hezb-i-Islami has already established a youth branch called the Youth Islamic Party (YIP). The YIP aims to attract and recruit a newer and much younger generation into its organization. The existence of YIP and the continuous support of YIP by high ranking officials, through participation in their gatherings, shed light on the party's continuous investment in youths. For example, HIG's chief of office, Dr. Mohammad Hakim Hakim, stated in one of the YIP gatherings that HIG tremendously values youths' presence because the party was initially founded by courageous youths.^[4] He further references the past 30 years of Afghan history and claims that youths were the pioneers to revolt against the communist regime, backed by the Soviet Union, in Afghanistan. Moreover, the narratives indicate how desperate HIG is to retain current youth members while at the same time attract and recruit new members from the younger generation. They make continuous efforts to justify their military operations and political activities by calling it a pure Afghan struggle that serves national interests.

In the past month, there has been a political dialogue between the HIG representatives and the Afghan administration in Kabul; hence, this topic has become a major point of discussion in youth section. Based on the number of articles and reports, it seems like a number of young HIG members are suspicious of their party's move towards political settlement with the current Afghan government. To counter this misunderstanding and obtain member support, HIG leaders presented well-crafted arguments supporting peace talks while at the same time continued opposing the presence of foreign forces in Afghanistan. For instance, one of the HIG members, who introduced himself as Mukhlisyar, mentioned in part of his trip report to Kabul (originally written in the Pashto language):

"We have failed all the American conspiracies after our decent and peaceful mujahedeen waged jihad against them; as a result, the crusade officials and military Generals have admitted their mistakes and failures by stating that the Afghan war cannot be won through military means. Also, a few months ago, the U.S. president Obama announced that he will withdraw the U.S. forces within 18 months. To respond to public concerns about the possibility of a potential civil war among Afghans, HIG has offered a broad-based, engaging, and rational peace proposal named the National Protection Agreement for those in the Kabul administration who struggle for peace. Our vulnerable Afghan nation has waited for such a proposal for many years and has welcomed this peace offer and called it a positive step toward peace. I have also travelled to Kabul for my private reasons. There, I witnessed the overwhelming happiness of many elders, youths and young Afghan national army soldiers for the HIG delegates' arrival. I would like to share some examples of my travel experiences.

Dear young brothers and sisters,

On the way to Kabul, I witnessed a tiring scene close to the Mahipar area where the road was blocked and thousands of vehicles were waiting in line. Nobody knew what was happening. Some thought there had been a car accident while others believed the mujahedeen had attacked a nearby area. After two long hours of waiting, the vehicles slowly began moving. We finally discovered that we had been waiting because a U.S. convoy of four vehicles made the cars stop and wait for many hours. One youth said that they do this to protect themselves from the mujahedeen since they never attack when civilians are around them. Otherwise, they would have already been wiped out. One old person put his hands together and started praying to God. He said may God destroy them and HIG's peace proposal succeeds so that these animals disappear from this land. We are tired of these people.

Furthermore, I was invited to an engagement ceremony where many villagers were present in it. Suddenly, we saw the news in a Hard Talk Program on the TV screen that showed Mr. Hekmatyar and his picture. Meanwhile, someone called for silence since he said that they want to see Mr. Hekmatyar. Another person got excited and said, I swear to God that even the TV looks attractive when showing his [Mr. Hekmatyar's] face. Later, the TV showed Mr. Quthbuddin Helal, the HIG peace delegate, and his fellows were discussing the peace proposal in a TV program. In the meantime, a senior author, who was also present in our gathering, was very impressed by the appearance of the

delegates. He commented- look at their bright faces and beards! They look so confident. He further added that they have waged jihad against Americans while they are also peace pioneers. Another youth replied- it is because HIG mujahidin are both tough and kind people. If they had not existed, who knows how the nonbelievers [NATO and U.S. forces] would treat us. As a matter of fact, the Taliban and mujahidin have defeated the haughty Americans and forced them to flee.

The next day I went to Kabul city. After my prayers in Pul-e-Khisti, I saw four people discussing HIG's peace dialogue in the Dari language. They said that Gulbudin Hekmatyar maintained his popularity and is a very smart person because he never surrendered to any nonbeliever. Also, his followers are also very smart and great public speakers. They are very courageous people because, in the presence of Americans, they explain their peace talks to Karzai and others. In brief, they also supported our peace settlement...I decided to go to the Khogyani district [Nangarhar Province]... On the way, one youth who was an ANA soldier said that he swears to God, they were close to starting a dangerous fight with the Americans [U.S. forces] in the Chamthala region. Another youth asked him what happened. He answered that Americans wanted to search women there. Their commander told him that they [ANA] don't have women officers so they can't search women; however, the Americans insisted on using male soldiers instead to search women.

We [ANA soldiers] walked away to create a distance between us and the Americans while waiting for our commander's order against them. We [ANA] also asked the villagers to use stones and sticks if the Americans begin searching women but they understood our [ANA] anger and avoided such action.

We [ANA soldiers] were also cautious because these cruel people kill civilians too. Later, we arrived to the Mamly region where one of the youths in our car told us the story of a 17-year old boy killing an American soldier with a sickle. During this same discussion, another boy showed me an ANA post that was mistakenly hit by an American airstrike and killed all the ANA soldiers. When I reached the village, another Afghan ANA soldier told me that the HIG mujahidin came into our base in the Kunar province. They [HIG fighters] asked us if Americans are present here but we [ANA] told them they already left.

Therefore, they left us too and told us [ANA] that if you don't confront us, HIG mujahidin won't act against you either. Our [HIG] enemies are only invaders; however, don't fight and spy for them [foreign forces]. The ANA soldier was very happy with HIG's mujahidin and added that I swear if there is any national uprising, the ANA and ANP will be the first to target them. We are Muslims and Afghans and our Islam and honor is at risk. He said that we are not British. We are the sons of mujahidin and immigrants. He ended his comments with this sentence: Poverty doesn't let us do anything."^[5]

Analysis: Major narratives of the report:

1. Justification of HIG's peace dialogue
2. Portraying HIG as a peaceful and patriotic group
3. Overview of HIG influence in the country
4. Defending the HIG leadership stance on the Afghan conflict and clearly indicates U.S./ISAF are the number one enemy of HIG
5. Sabotage U.S. involvement, operation and utilization of traditional and civilian casualties to counter their presence in Afghanistan
6. Persuading Afghan National Security Forces against ISAF and suggesting public support for ISAF/U.S. forces no longer exists.

1. HIG's justification for peace dialogue:

The above story shows that the peace talks are questioned by the party members, particularly young members. This is probably because they were not engaged in the decision making process of holding peace settlement talks with the Afghan government; hence, the HIG leadership struggles to gain support

from its youth followers. The author also tries to explain through various narratives the significance of peace settlement with the Afghan administration such as prevention of a potential civil war and the respect to the demands of the Afghan people for peace and stability.

2. Portraying HIG as a peaceful and patriotic group:

HIG is infamous for being one of the most violent mujahidin parties that are popular with the Afghan public. Their legacy of fighting other mujahidin factions in Kabul and the province in the 1990's is still evident in some places in Afghanistan. To repair its popularity, HIG focuses to convince public domestic audiences and perhaps international audiences that it is a peaceful organization. HIG repeatedly states different narratives arguing that war is imposed on them because they care about the wellbeing of Afghans and the national interest of their country. Also, they attempt to convince the public that HIG is not a stranger group and they share love of the country with people, a patriotic approach to establish ties and foster unity with the Afghan population.

3. Overview of HIG influence in the country:

Similar to other insurgent websites, HIG publishes news, articles, interviews, and information to exercise their power by indicating their sphere of influence among public in Afghanistan. Although its influence in the region is overly stated, they use it as a strategy to attract new members from the young Afghan generation and retain current followers. It is also an attempt to strengthen the morale of their soldiers to continue fighting against their enemies. HIG uses many types of apparatuses to let its followers know that a large Afghan population supports them because they both serve the country's national interest and Islam.

4. Defending the HIG leadership stance on the Afghan conflict and clearly indicates U.S./ISAF are the number one enemy of HIG:

HIG is very active in publishing articles, stories, magazines and books to communicate their objectives to the people. Their whisper campaign has been very strong compared to other mujahidin groups during the fight with the communist-backed government in Afghanistan. Currently, their website is extremely busy on justifying why HIG leadership decided to engage in a peace dialogue with the Afghan government. They not only offer reasons for the decision but also seek to especially remind their young members to respect leaders in any circumstances.

5. Sabotage U.S. involvement, operation and utilization of traditional and civilian casualties to counter their presence in Afghanistan:

HIG seems to be pretty active in pointing out that the behavior of the international forces does not resonate with the Afghan culture and lifestyle. Using various narratives, they fuel the anti-U.S. sentiments among the public. They have concentrated their propaganda on population protection because they realize that civilian casualties have become a very serious issue in the Afghan conflict. For instance, civilian losses in a distant village in Afghanistan lead to a countrywide public anger and grievances against the perpetrators. They also use some of the U.S. allies' forces actions which do not comply with the Afghan culture as tools to degrade international community efforts. As an example, the Shahadat website discusses highway blockades by ISAF convoys to counter NATO's presence in the country.

Blocking highways is a huge point of critique for the Afghan public concerning the international forces. This problem goes beyond the normal blockade of roads for the safety of military forces. A majority of Afghans see it as a threat to their country sovereignty and leads them to question who owns the roads. In other words, Afghans are sensitive concerning the issue of ownership. Thereby, the insurgent groups including HIG are playing this card very well to sabotage such incidents. Another example is the attitude of international forces toward the Afghan women, especially concerning military operations and night raids.

HIG understands that the Afghan population is extremely sensitive on the topic of women, a tradition that basically limits any access of strange men to women in their family. The Afghan public perceives it as an attack on the honor of the family or village especially when male military personnel want to search women and their belongings during a military operation.

6. Persuading Afghan National Security Forces against ISAF and suggesting public support for ISAF/U.S. forces no longer exists:

One of the HIG exclusive IO operation tools is to segregate the Afghan security forces from the ISAF, which in turn will lead to potential clashes between them. It is an approach that on hand appreciates ANA for their bravery and patriotism; on the other hand, they try to provoke them against international security forces. HIG constantly publishes narratives that portray the impunity for Afghan security forces while targeting foreign forces in Afghanistan. To critically analyze this policy, it leads to one conclusion which is the incapability of HIG. Due to the lack of its operational and motivational capacities, the insurgent group is trying to come up with an alternative to fight its enemies. This optimal option is in fact the divide and rule policy, that will potentially provide them time and space to confront their enemies. If it is successful, the policy will open the opportunity door to HIG to thrive and overcome its enemies one by one.

In that case, Afghan National Security force will be reluctant to fight against the HIG's fighters or even, in the best case scenario, it will turn them against their international allies though this is unlikely; however, it might be possible that HIG infiltrates individuals in the ANA at the village level. Much of the local population living in rural areas is still vulnerable to HIG's propaganda. It is important to mention that some Afghans oppose other insurgent groups such as the Taliban because they target all who either work in the Afghan government or live under its influence. Conversely, HIG claims to be only targeting international forces which may attract some sympathy from the local population.

Editorial section

The website editorial section covers topics against the United States and Iran as well as articles on the ongoing events in the Muslim world. These editorials, which are written in both Afghan official languages (Pashto and Dari,) are well crafted IO pieces on various events that will possibly mislead people who have limited information on global issues. The specific topics vary from the defeat and atrocities of the American forces to criticizing Iranian authority for the recent capital punishments of Afghan immigrants living in Iran to Israeli aggression against Palestinians. However, the recent editorial mostly focuses on protecting civilian population and provoking people against American forces. For instance, the editorial, The Beginning of New Nexuses between Nation and Mujahidin, published on April 28, 2010 is an indication that their IO strategy struggles to fuel public anger over mistakes made by the international security forces. The following is the editorial translation from Dari to the English language.

"We have seen no seriousness from rulers and American Generals to stop the atrocities and respect the values of humanity. It is evident that despite the protest against the war by millions of people around the world, including Americans, they [U.S. and NATO forces] still continue their destructive actions and crimes in Afghanistan. Although they have repeatedly promised to concentrate on protecting civilians, their shameful actions against the Afghan population are worse than before. A good example of this is the killing of civilians by Americans in Logar province.

We would like to respectfully thank Muslim mujahidin people of Logar province for their demonstrations against the killing of a number of residents in Ali Khan village of Pule Alam district. The protest blocked Kabul-Logar road for the entire day that provided an opportunity for HIG mujahidin to destroy 35 fuel tankers, military vehicles, and ranger trucks. Also, there were at least 50 injured or killed American and NATO soldiers. Following this, the HIG mujahidin operations in Surobi and Kapisa against French forces and the operations against American forces in Kunar province killed tens of their soldiers, an indication of fast growth of our experienced mujahidin in the jihadi operation against the American and NATO invaders in recent times.

The Afghan mujahidin should continue this series of demonstrations and protests against foreign invaders throughout the country. In particular, if the U.S. allies commit any crime or atrocity which is their daily habit, the residents of that region should show rigid reactions and protests against foreigners. It is also necessary that people living in neighbor areas break their silence and unite for the uprising with full responsibility. We are certain that these public responsibilities as well as the mujahidin's escalating activities have a positive and special impact on bashing foreign forces. With the continuation of such organized activities, they will soon flee and leave our country regardless of their expenditures, casualties, and unfinished conspiracies."^[6]

The above editorial describes the shift of HIG's IO operation from inviting people to join them in a physical military jihad to encouraging civilian uprising against the U.S. forces. HIG utilizes all possible ways to convince their audience and the general public that the international security forces do not serve their interest but add miseries to their daily lives. It is important to mention because HIG is active in northern and eastern Afghanistan, the website mostly focuses on providing news and articles covering the events and incidents from the same regions. Furthermore, other existing editorials demonstrate HIG's tendency to unite the local population by showing sympathy to the Muslims living under oppression around the world. They have even criticized Iran while praising public demonstrations against Iranian authority for prosecuting Afghan immigrants in Iran.

Poetry and Literature Section

HIG has recognized the fact that one of the best ways to communicate with the local population is poetry. It is a traditionally common and efficient method to reach out to the majority of illiterate Afghan population who prefer to listen than writing. Those individuals, who are able to read and write, recite poetry in various gatherings and events to their uneducated audience, the people who are susceptible to memorize poems and chants. The poetry and literature section contains a mix of narratives such as strengthening fighters' morale, sharing sadness with prisoners, foreign invasion, and other related topics; however, they specifically target civilians and show sympathy with their miserable lives which they claim is caused by the foreign invaders. As an example, here is the translation of one of the poems; It is Impossible to Achieve Things by Making Complaints, written in Pashto language by Ustad Kamin Jihadi.

“It is impossible to achieve things with screaming and shouting alone
It is impossible to achieve things by making false promises
One who doesn't understand the value of a flower from the bottom of his heart
Dear friend, it is impossible to achieve things with thorns
While he just pretends, he has left practical ground [Jihad]
It is impossible to achieve things walking in streets and routes
Decent Islam religion requires action
It is impossible to achieve things by giving speeches
There is a need to heavily bash crusaders
It is impossible to achieve things by making complaints and imploration
When there is no unity and cohesiveness
It is impossible to achieve things from civil war
If no one goes to trenches in years
It is impossible to achieve things by listening to people
Jihad says, come join us in the trenches
It is impossible to achieve things while walking around with no sense of responsibility.”
[\[7\]](#)

The main theme of the above poem is to encourage people to actively participate in jihad because many people remain neutral in the current Afghan conflict. Similar to other insurgent groups, HIG tries to create narratives in their poems to change the public's opinion in their favor. They utilize religion and culture as a means to convince people that HIG is the only solution to this conflict. Many of their poems concentrate on fueling people's sentiments against the foreign forces by maximizing U.S. allies' mistakes such as civilian casualties, misbehavior with the prisoners, and activities against the Afghan tradition. These mistakes help them produce narratives that depict a notorious picture of the international forces present in Afghanistan. Although HIG and other insurgent groups have also committed many crimes against the Afghan public, people rarely see solid propaganda against HIG and these groups from international forces and the Afghan government.

Article Section

There are a variety of articles that encompass political, social and health issues; however, few articles narrowly focus on the Afghan conflict and the presence of foreign forces in Afghanistan. In this website, the authors try to take the Afghan unrest beyond the borders of the country by linking it to the Palestine - Israel conflict and Iraq war. It is, in fact, an approach to justify the Afghan war as a war on the entire Muslim world, a strategy that will potentially help them receive maximum financial, recruitment and motivational support from the Islamic World. Furthermore, they understand that there is an extensive backing for Palestine and Iraq wars among the world's Muslim community in comparison to Afghanistan. That is why HIG continues to create arguments that link Afghan problems to the other two conflicts. As an example, Daily Shahadat published an article called "The ongoing war is not to kill or capture a number of people."^[8] It provides a clear picture of their narrative which tries to take Afghanistan into a new level of conflict. Here is the translation of the Pashto article:

"Currently fire [war and violence] burns two parts of the Islamic nation body: one is the region of Afghanistan and Pakistan that has suffered from U.S. war for the last 9 years and the other is the Middle East, the heart of the Islamic nation which the third crusade world war clouds has spread over it. Even the Bible has predicted to this issue. The Hadiths of the Prophet Mohammad referred to this issue as the Great epic.

Whose war is this? Who are they fighting against? What are the objectives of this war? To understand this war, we need to study it in-depth. After World War II, people commented that World War III will be in Asia because the West lost millions of people and carried the burden of destruction. Moreover, Tyne Bay, a famous history philosopher, wrote that the 21st century wars will not be between Capitalism and Communism because until that time, Communism will be very weak; however, the war will be against Islam and Muslims. Our prophet Mohammad peace be upon him predicted this 1400 years ago. He said that oh Muslims, you will be attacked by the Rome (crusades) soldiers under 80 flags. There will be 12000 fighters under each flag. The magnitude of casualties will be very high. For example, if a family has 100 sons, 99 of them will be killed. In the past century, when the Soviet Union broke up into pieces, NATO not only became reorganized but accelerated its expansion.

[This article further states that, in the past,] someone asked NATO's Secretary General that what is all preparation for while the enemy is defeated. He replied in an aggressive way, our war is currently not with Communism anymore but with Islamism. Since the past 20 years, all the important American institutions struggle to find a way for how to sustain its strong status in the 21st century that they got after defeating the Soviet Union. Europe was burning in the flames of World War II while the U.S. watched although Britain tried to bring it together [with their allies.] When Japan attacked on the Pearl Harbor military base, the U.S. entered the battle ground.

Likewise, based on the September 11th conspiracy of the extremist Jews and crusaders, the U.S. fueled the fire of World War III that hit two parts [Afghanistan and Pakistan region and the Middle East] of the Islamic Nation. The U.S. has two objectives from this crusade war: 1) it wants to maintain its world power and domination over the world and bash all the other economic system that threatens capitalism. 2) To protect their political, cultural and economic systems, it has invaded Islamic nation because they believe Islam is the only potential factor which will destroy their system. In 2005, Bush ordered attacks on Saudi Arabia and Pakistan but this decision was delayed because of compromises made by the U.S. army.

The current conditions and events show that this war will become a crusade war. The Jews and crusader, in the beginning, didn't expect to have high losses from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. They in fact planned to capture Iraq in order to form a big Israeli government and capture Afghanistan in order to take control of the natural resources in Afghanistan and Central Asia. After the collapse of the Saddam Hussian government in Iraq, Shimon, prime minister of Isreal, said that Iraq will soon come under our authority. He further said that our claim was controlling all the areas to Farat river but now, our claim and request is to rule over Dejla river too because the control these areas are significant to establish a strong and big Israeli government

The enemies of Islam were defeated both in Iraq and Afghanistan because of the courage, sacrifice and commitment of the Afghan and Iraqi mujahidin; otherwise, they thought it is an easy gain. Now, NATO and the U.S. cannot bear such shame so they want to sustain violence in Islamic countries. They also want to implement 5 objectives plan which include 1) the establishment of a big Israeli government, 2) the building of Hiakal Solomon Church on the holy land of Jerusalem and putting the chair of the Prophet Solomon in there which according to them this chair is stored in a church beside the parliament in London, 3) taking control of Islamic countries and their natural resources, 4) use of the Middle east and Afghanistan oil resources and exporting it to Persian Gulf because an Islamic movement will rise once again from this region that will destroy them.

If there was no Jihad and resistance of mujahidin, Muslims would have faced all kinds of unexpected miseries. It is the power of military struggle that has broken the U.S. pride. Under sever circumstances today; they request peace talks that they didn't want to consider in 2001. If anyone thinks the current conflict is a war against terrorism, he is naive. No one with a rational mind will accept that this long, heavy and bloody war has begun just to capture or kill Osama and 30-40 mujahidin. On September 16th, there was a big Islamic clerics gathering in Islamabad which I was invited too. General Musharraf gave a long speech and said that he decided to side with the United States due to the national interest of Pakistan. He further mentioned that Pakistan is his priority. He gave four reasons related to Pakistan's national interests.

1. Pakistan will be secured
2. The country will stand economically on its own feet
3. The U.S. will help solving Kashmir problem
4. Pakistan's nuclear technology will be protected from threats.

In this gathering, 70 to 80 Islamic clerics said that until now, we know that neither Osama nor Afghans have committed any crime so it is not a proper justice. We shouldn't support them [U.S.] in this crime. When the turn of talks came to me, I told them that it is possible that we [Pakistanis] will benefit from this deal; however, remember that Pakistan will soon become like Iraq and Afghanistan. Our people will suffer from the barbaric behavior of the United States. We shouldn't stand behind the crusade army against our neighbor country of Afghanistan because it is on the contrary of Islamic and tribal values. It is an insurrection against God's order to help the infidels. Unfortunately, nobody heard our voice and the same thing happened as it was requested by the enemies of Islam.

Whom should we ask now to answer our achievements? All these unfortunate conditions are the results of the U.S., Israel, and India's objectives. Based on their plans, they have created chaos in our country and want to spread it to the rooms of every Muslim. This current war is neither to apprehend nor kill some Al Qaida members. Also, it is not worth it to utilize more than hundred thousand of well equipped soldiers to capture some people. It is an excuse. The target is something else and those Muslims will soon discover the fact who feel protected and security in this continuous war."^[9]

In conclusion, the above article shows how the author intelligently misleads its readers to believe not only the foreign troops have invaded Afghanistan but also they have a global agenda to dominate the entire Muslim community around the world. The actual author who seems to come from Pakistan has used mostly religious narratives to counter the foreign forces presence in Afghanistan. These types of stories usually resonate with public because they lack all types of awareness understanding the underlying causes and importance of this war. Throughout its history, HIG has been popular for their effective IO infiltrating universities, schools, media and government institutions. Although this newspaper on the web is not widely available to people due to its limited access to internet, the verbal story telling culture which help transmit information among Afghan public and the publishing of this newspaper on paper will help conveying messages faster than anyone could anticipate it.

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